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New York, 24 June-26 July 1996
Agenda item 3 (b)

COORDINATION OF THE POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS ON THE THEME OF THE 1995 COORDINATION SEGMENT OF THE COUNCIL

Canada, Norway and the Russian Federation: draft resolution

Follow-up to General Assembly resolution 50/227: initiation of reviews

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991 and 46/235 of 13 April 1992, Economic and Social Council decision 1996/203 of 9 February 1996, the implementation of the agreed conclusions 1995/1, and the pertinent measures called for in Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996,

Conscious of the specific call made by the General Assembly for relevant intergovernmental bodies to fully implement the measures contained in its resolution 50/227,

Reaffirming the central role assigned to the Economic and Social Council in the implementation of Assembly resolution 50/227,

Noting, in particular, the requirements for the Council to review the mandates, composition, functions and working methods of its functional commissions and expert groups and bodies, to consider as a matter of priority the role, working methods and relationship with other bodies of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Committee for Development Planning, the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, and the Committee on Natural Resources, and to provide for the review of the regional commissions with a view to strengthening and enhancing their effectiveness,

Recognizing the potential contribution of the Council's review of the four bodies mentioned above to the review of the implementation of Agenda 21 to be conducted by the General Assembly at its special session of 1997,

Noting with satisfaction the internal reviews already under way in a number of regional commissions,

A. Functional commissions and expert groups and bodies

1. Decides to convene a resumed session of the Economic and Social Council for five days in early 1997 to consider the role, working methods and relationship with other bodies in the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Committee for Development Planning, the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and Energy for Development, and the Committee on Natural Resources;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in order that the Council may properly prepare for the resumed session, to submit, no later than 1 January 1997, a report on the role, working methods and relationship with other bodies of the four bodies mentioned above, identifying, inter alia:

(a) The principal outputs and/or products emanating from each body;

(b) The other functional commissions and/or expert groups and bodies that make use of those outputs;

(c) Other forums within the United Nations system in which similar issues are discussed;

(d) The issues in each body's purview that require an intergovernmental or expert contribution, and the nature of that contribution;

(e) The source of expert and secretariat support for each body;

3. Resolves to take any further decisions that may be required on the matter of the four bodies mentioned above at its substantive session of 1997;

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its substantive session of 1997 the sub-item entitled "Review of the mandates, composition, functions and working methods of functional commissions and expert groups and bodies";

B. Regional commissions

5. Reaffirms the need to provide for a review of the regional commissions with a view to strengthening and enhancing their effectiveness as action-oriented and policy-oriented bodies;

6. Requests the executive secretaries of the regional commissions to undertake and/or complete internal reviews, including priorities for management and functional assessments, and to report to the Council at its substantive session of 1997;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report, drawing on the internal reviews of the regional commissions, in order that the Council may properly prepare for its substantive session of 1997;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its substantive session of 1997 the sub-item entitled "Review of the regional commissions".